

Montreal Notes.

I am glad to see that you are advising Canadian exhibitors to show in New York next February and compete against the world, and I hope to see Western Canada well represented there by our leading breeders. Birds bred in London, Ont., were at the show last winter, and took high honors. When looking at the prize cards how it would have delighted me to have seen the breeder's names on them. I have been told that T. Hall, of Outremont, P.Q., is going to take several Light Brahmas down to New York. I wish him every success.

I would like to see one improvement at the New York show, and that is, where there is much keen competition the judges should not know the names of the exhibitors of the bird by the number on the ticket, and I would suggest that a coupon be attached to the coop card as follows:

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And when the attendant takes the bird to be scored he tears off the coupon, writes the number on it twice as in the brackets, give the upper half to the secretary and the other to the judge, who enters that number in his book or on the score card, whichever he uses first. This would, I think, prevent even the suggestion of the idea that the numbers of certain exhibitors are in the possession of the judge.

I have secured a prize-list of first annual show of the Toronto Poultry Association, to be held in Toronto on the 8th of December, and it reflects considerable enterprise on the part of the promoters. They have taken a new departure in the schedule; instead of classifying them in variations they have numbered them alphabetically. The following clause will meet with hearty support, viz.: "All birds, etc., entered for ordinary prizes allowed to compete for special without extra charge." I hope this means that all birds compete for specials without the necessity of having to be specially entered. Sometimes the special list is sent out after the regular prize list, and an exhibitor may not receive one, and it seems hard that he should be debarred for competing for all prizes that are offered. I have seen inferior birds take the specials and afterwards advertised as birds that have taken the leading honors.

It is amusing to see specials offered where the winning birds are to become the property of the donor. Is it likely that the owner of the prize birds will surrender them for the magnificent sum of \$10? When all specials are free of entry money, is the exhibitor

bound to give up the birds unless he specially notifies the secretary that he does not intend to compete for that particular special?

I notice a large breeder of Light Brahmas advertises one of his hens by the name of "Mrs. Sir John A." What lady did he intend to honor with the above title?

Dr. Andres has a splendid collection of Minorcas. As they are a scarce variety in this section they are the object of a good deal of interest. I think he intends showing them in Toronto, and as he has expended a great deal of money in getting the best, I expect they will take high honors.

John Ritchie is one of our quiet fanciers, and it gives me pleasure to record that he has a fine lot of chicks this fall. He keeps three varieties: White Leghorns, Brahmas, and Plymouth Rocks. He believes in giving birds good accommodations, and has fixed up a nice warm winter house for them.

I intended to have visited Mr. Joyce's suburban residence on Thanksgiving Day, and give your readers an account of his poultry house and contents, as well as his pigeons, but the rain prevented me. I hope to be able to have it in the January number. He has imported very largely from the old country, both fowls and pigeons, from the most noted breeders. In another year I hope the winter shows will receive large entries of his birds.

Mr. J. H. Cayford has purchased the entire stock of White Leghorns from Thomas Hall, who is devoting himself exclusively to Light Brahmas. This is a very fine collection, as in addition to the birds scoring over 90 at the show last winter, there are more fine imported pullets.

One of our oldest fanciers is "Bill Cox." His stock of Games is very good, including some fine birds imported this year.

I am afraid the small-pox epidemic (which I am glad to say is now nearly over) will prevent their being any show this winter, and in consequence I expect many Montreal fanciers will travel east and west with their birds.

MONTREAL.

Montreal, Dec. 1, 1885.

Judging.

Editor Review:

To my knowledge scorers have been accused of desiring a change in our method of judging shows because, being all beginners, in the event of a change they would be able to win a greater proportion of the prizes than in the past. Now sir, in the first place the scorers are not all beginners, and, in the second, I would ask who have won a large proportion of the prizes for the last few years in the leading varieties, if not the scorers? And again, in all that has been written and spoken in support of scoring, where and when has this feature been offered as a